

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04

RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 DRC-01 /061 W

----- 114374

R 301606Z APR 74

FM AMCONSUL HALIFAX

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 756

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS HALIFAX 101

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CA

SUBJECT: LIBERAL PARTY WINS OVERWHELMING VICTORY
IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND ELECTION

REF: CONGEN 090

1. PREMIER ALEX CAMPBELL'S LIBERAL PARTY WON 26 SEATS IN 32 SEAT LEGISLATURE. PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVES (PC) WON REMAINING SIX. THIS GIVES LIBERALS TWO MORE SEATS THAN THEY HAD WHEN ELECTION CALLED. PC'S LOST ONE SEAT.

2. PC LEADER , MELVIN MCQUAID, WHO BECAME PARTY CHIEF A YEAR AGO WAS RETURNED TO LEGISLATURE. GEORGE DEWAR, FORMER PC EDUCATION MINISTER (SEE CONGEN A-44) WENT DOWN TO DEFEAT.

3. NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY WHICH FIELDED 20 CANDIDATES BADLY DEFEATED. PARTY ON AVERAGE TOOK ABOUT 6 PERCENT OF TOTAL VOTE OR SOMEWHAT GREATER PERCENTAGE IN CONSTITUENCIES WHICH IT ACTUALLY CONTESTED. PARTY LEADER AQVINAS RYAN TRAILED BEHIND BOTH RIVAL CANDIDATES.

4. CAMPAIGN LACKED ANY MAJOR ISSUE. NEAREST THING TO ONE COME ABOUT LATE LAST WEEK WHEN REPORTS WERE UNCLASSIFIED

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LEAKED TO PRESS SHOWING THAT CONSULTANTS HAD BEEN

CRITICAL OF SOME SECTIONS OF GOVERNMENT'S DEVELOPMENT PLAN. PREMIER CAMPBELL SAID STORIES BASED ON PRELIMINARY CONSULTANT'S REPORTS AND PC'S HAD RELEASED ONLY THOSE SECTIONS CRITICAL OF GOVERNMENT. ISSUE APPARENTLY RAISED TOO LATE TO AFFECT ELECTION OUTCOME.

5. CAMPBELL HIMSELF QUOTED AS SAYING THAT WITHOUT AN OVERRIDING ISSUE LIKELY TO DEFEAT THE GOVERNMENT IT COMES DOWN TO PERSONAL CONTACT. HE HIMSELF TRAVELLED SOME 3000 MILES BACK AND FORTH ACROSS THE ISLAND DURING COURSE OF 26-DAY CAMPAIGN. HIS MEET-THE-PEOPLE TACTICS OBVIOUSLY PAID OFF.
MANBEY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTIONS, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, POLITICAL PARTIES, PARTY LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974HALIFA00101
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740102-1214
From: HALIFAX
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974043/aaaaaciz.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: CONGEN 090
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kellerpr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 JUL 2002 by kellerpr>; APPROVED <05 JUL 2002 by kellerpr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LIBERAL PARTY WINS OVERWHELMING VICTORY IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND ELECTION
TAGS: PINT, CA, (CAMPBELL, ALEX), (MC QUAID, MELVIN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005